AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A ~~D~~ desiccant container, with increased tightness, made of thermoplastic polymer materials, for the packaging of products sensitive to ambient moisture, presented in processed or unprocessed forms comprising: ~~, consisting of~~:
- a tubular casing ~~(1)~~, forming ~~the~~ a product packaging zone, closed at one of its ends by a base ~~(2)~~ and open at the other end ~~(3)~~,
- sealing means ~~(4)~~ of the open end ~~(3)~~ of the tubular casing ~~(1)~~,
- connection means ~~(5)~~ placed between the sealing means ~~(4)~~ and the tubular casing ~~(1)~~,
- packaging means ~~(6)~~ of a desiccant agent placed on ~~the~~ an inner face of the sealing means ~~(6)~~,
- a collar type outer peripheral stop ~~(7)~~, created in ~~the~~ a vicinity of the open end ~~(3)~~ of the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ wherein ~~on~~ the sealing means ~~(4) are~~ is supported in ~~the~~ a closed position thereof, and further wherein,

~~characterised in that:~~

a) the sealing means ~~(4)~~ of the open end ~~(3)~~ of the tubular casing ~~(1) consist of~~ comprises a cap-lid coaxial with the tubular casing ~~(1) consisting of~~ comprising an upper end wall and two concentric tubular peripheral walls ~~(9 and 10)~~ comprising, one inner wall ~~(9)~~ and one outer wall ~~(10)~~, and forming together a ~~deep~~ peripheral groove ~~(11)~~ having walls distanced from each other to cover, when said sealing means ~~are~~ is closed, ~~the~~ a peripheral wall ~~(12)~~ of ~~the~~ said open end ~~(3)~~ of the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ up to ~~the~~ said outer peripheral stop ~~(7)~~, creating four successive surface to surface type tightness peripheral zones forming four successive tightness barriers between the open end ~~(3)~~ of the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ and the cap-lid ~~(4)~~, and

b) the connection means between the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ and the sealing means ~~(4) consist of~~ comprises a mechanical hinge ~~(5)~~, ~~preferentially removable,~~ ensuring the precision of ~~the~~ closure.

2. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein a first surface to surface type peripheral tightness zone is established between the outer ~~coaxial~~ wall ~~(10)~~ of the ~~deep~~ peripheral groove ~~(11)~~ and ~~the~~ an outer face of the wall of the open end ~~(3)~~ of the tubular casing ~~(1)~~.

3. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim [[1]] 2, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein a second surface to surface type peripheral tightness zone is created between ~~the~~ a peripheral base of the ~~deep~~ peripheral groove ~~(11)~~ and ~~the~~ a peripheral edge ~~(30)~~ of the open end ~~(3)~~ of the tubular casing ~~(1)~~.

4. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 3 characterised in that the~~ wherein a base of the peripheral groove ~~(11)~~ has ~~the same~~ a cross-section that is the same as ~~the~~ a cross-section of the peripheral edge of the open end of the casing ~~(1)~~.

5. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 4 ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said cross-sections comprise ~~is of the~~ a sharp angle ~~type~~.

6. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 4 ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said cross-sections comprise an ~~is of the~~ arc of a circle ~~type~~.

7. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 6 characterised in that the~~ wherein a peripheral edge of the open end ~~(3)~~ of the casing ~~(1)~~ is in the prolongation of said casing ~~(1)~~.

8. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 6 characterised in that the~~ wherein a peripheral edge of the open end ~~(3)~~ of the casing ~~(1)~~ protrudes from said casing ~~(1)~~.

9. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 8 characterised in that~~ wherein the distance between the inner ~~(9)~~ and outer ~~(10)~~ walls of the groove is at least equal to the thickness of the tubular casing ~~(1)~~.

10. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim [[1]] 3, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein a third surface to surface type peripheral tightness zone is established

between ~~the~~ an inner surface of the inner ~~coaxial~~ wall ~~(9)~~ of the ~~deep~~ peripheral groove ~~(11)~~ and ~~the~~ an inner surface of the open end ~~(3)~~ of the tubular casing ~~(1)~~.

11. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 10, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the contact height of the third surface to surface type peripheral tightness zone extends from ~~the~~ a lower end of the inner wall ~~(9)~~ to ~~the~~ a base of the groove ~~(11)~~.

12. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 11 characterised in that~~ wherein the height of ~~the~~ said inner peripheral wall ~~(9)~~ of the groove ~~(11)~~ is at least equal to ~~and preferentially greater than~~ the height of ~~the~~ said outer wall of said groove ~~(11)~~.

13. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1, ~~to 12 characterised in that the~~ wherein an inner surface of the inner peripheral wall ~~(9)~~ comprises an annular ~~type~~ peripheral protuberance ~~(31)~~.

14. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 13 ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said annular ~~type~~ peripheral protuberance ~~(31)~~ is engaged into a corresponding peripheral groove ~~(32)~~ placed on the inner wall of the open end ~~(3)~~ of the casing ~~(1)~~.

15. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim [[1]] 4, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein a ~~the~~ fourth surface to surface type peripheral tightness zone is established between ~~the~~ a plane lower edge of the outer wall ~~(10)~~ of the ~~deep~~ groove ~~(11)~~ and ~~the~~ a plate of the outer peripheral stop ~~(7)~~.

16. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 15, characterised in that~~ wherein the depth of the ~~deep~~ peripheral groove ~~(11)~~ is ~~between~~ from 45% ~~and~~ to 95% of the thickness of the cap-lid ~~(4)~~ measured on the outer peripheral wall ~~(10)~~ of said groove.

17. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 16~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the outer peripheral wall ~~(10)~~ of the ~~deep~~ peripheral groove ~~(11)~~ is continuous.

18. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 17~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the outer peripheral wall ~~(10)~~ of the ~~deep~~ peripheral groove ~~(11)~~ is rendered discontinuous by notches ~~(20)~~.

19. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 18~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cap-lid ~~(4)~~ is equipped with a gripping visor ~~(17)~~.

20. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 19~~, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein an inner face of the outer wall ~~(10)~~ of the groove ~~(11)~~ and ~~the~~ an outer face of the outer wall of the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ are equipped with snap-on means.

21. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 20~~, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said connection means comprises a mechanical hinge ~~(5) is~~ formed by two parts, ~~one so-called~~ a male part incorporated in the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ and, ~~the other so-called~~ a female part incorporated in the cap-lid ~~(4)~~.

22. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 21, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the ~~so-called~~ male part of the hinge ~~(5)~~ incorporated in the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ ~~consists of~~ comprises two bracket plates ~~(13)~~ connected ~~with~~ to each other by a rotation axis ~~(15)~~.

23. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 22, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the rotation axis ~~(15)~~ is prolonged beyond both bracket plates ~~(13)~~ by protruding ends ~~(19)~~.

24. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the ~~so-called~~ female part of the hinge ~~(5)~~, incorporated in the cap-lid ~~(4)~~, ~~consists of~~ comprises:
- two bracket plates ~~(17)~~ placed at a distance with respect to each other such that ~~they~~ said plates can encompass the bracket plates ~~(13)~~ of the ~~so-called~~ male part of the hinge ~~(5)~~,
- a second groove ~~(16)~~ intended to receive the rotation axis ~~(15)~~, delimited by inner ~~(10)~~ and outer ~~(14)~~ walls.

25. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 24, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the bracket plates ~~(17)~~ are equipped with orifices ~~(18)~~ to receive the protruding ends ~~(19)~~ of the rotation axis ~~(15)~~.

26. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 24, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the length of the second groove ~~(16)~~ intended to receive the rotation axis ~~(15)~~ is at most equal to the distance existing between ~~the~~ inner faces of the bracket plates ~~(13)~~.

27. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 26~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the packaging means ~~(6)~~ of a desiccant agent placed on the inner face of the cap-lid ~~(4)~~ is ~~preferentially of the~~ tubular ~~type~~.

28. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 27~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ and the cap-lid ~~(4)~~ are produced together with the same thermoplastic polymer composition.

29. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 27~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ and the cap-lid ~~(4)~~ are produced with different thermoplastic polymer compositions.

30. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 29~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the tubular casing ~~(1)~~ and the cap-lid ~~(4)~~ are produced using plastics technology methods using at least one thermoplastic polymer composition[[s]] selected

from the group consisting of polyethylenes (PE), polypropylenes (PP), ethylene/propylene copolymers and mixtures thereof, polyamides (PA), polystyrenes (PS), acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene copolymers (ABS), styrene-acrylonitrile copolymers(SAN), polyvinyl chlorides (PVC), polycarbonates (PC), polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), and polyethylene terephthalates (PET)~~, used alone or in a mixture~~.

31. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to claim 30, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the thermoplastic composition[[s]] ~~are~~ is associated with at least one elastomer of natural or synthetic origin~~, the elastomer(s) used possibly being selected preferentially from the group consisting of elastomers such as natural rubbers, synthetic rubber, particularly mono-olefin rubbers, such as isobutylene/isoprene polymers, ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA), ethylene propylene (EPR), ethylene propylene diene (EPDM), ethylene-ester acrylates (EMA-EEA), fluorinated polymers, diolefin rubbers, such as polybutadienes, styrene-butadiene (SBR) copolymers, condensation product-based rubbers such as polyester and polyurethane thermoplastic rubbers, silicones, styrene rubbers, styrene-butadiene-styrene (SBS) and styrene-isoprene-styrene (SIS)~~.

32. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 31~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the desiccant agent is in powder form.

33. (currently amended) A [[D]]desiccant container according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 32~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the desiccant agent is at least one selected from the group consisting of silica gels, and molecular sieves.

34. (currently amended) ~~Use of the desiccant container according to claims 1 to 33 for the~~ A method for packaging [[of]] a product[[s]] sensitive to ambient moisture comprising employing said product in a desiccant container according to claim 1.